



May 11, 2017

Regional Transit Board of Directors  
Henry Li, General Manager/CEO  
Brent Bernegger, Director of Finance  
1400 29th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95816

**Re: Use of Prop 1A Funds (Board Item 22)**

Dear Board of Directors, Mr. Li, and Mr. Bernegger:

The Sacramento Transit Riders Union (Sac TRU) believes our transportation system should support well-planned transportation solutions that help our communities provide the transportation needs required in order to connect people to jobs and to revitalize local economies. Staff has identified 38 projects that potentially qualify for Prop 1A funds, 9 that are partially funded, and 29 that are unfunded. We request that Prop 1A funding be used to enhance the existing transportation system and infrastructure of Regional Transit and serve the greatest number of users on the existing system.

We believe that Prop. 1A, or the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, should be used for capital projects within RT to provide capacity enhancements and safety improvements to increase connectivity to the high-speed train system. We do not believe the funds should be used for projects that will require existing infrastructure to be removed and relocated potentially causing disrupted service to transit riders, specifically the relocation of the light rail from the highly visible and well trafficked K Street to the less accessible and less used H Street corridor.

After reviewing the list of alternative Capital Projects provided by staff, we have identified the following projects as being most beneficial to our members: Improved hard-scaping, safety, lighting & benches and covered shelters at all existing bus stops and stations where logistically possible. If buses are to be added to the system in the future- which we hope will happen soon, we think it is appropriate to invest in the infrastructure needed to establish and re-establish bus routes, i.e. electrical for lighting of stops and purchasing of materials and structures that will be needed to add bus stops. Anticipating expanding service, and preparing for the infrastructure improvements can save from spending inflated dollars in the future. It could also be the motivation needed to make expanded service happen sooner than planned. Please see the attached photos of the existing bus stop on 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 47<sup>th</sup> street in Supervisor Kennedy's District. We are sure you will see that serious safety issues exist at the stop, and there is absolutely no aesthetic quality of the stop to make anyone *choose* to ride anywhere from it if they absolutely don't have to.

Staff has provided this very long list of alternative uses to the Board with only 4 days to consider it before making a decision. We believe the Board should be given more time to review the options and discuss with their constituents the best use of these funds.



**We ask that the Board direct Staff to use or hold the \$25 million of Proposition 1A High Speed Rail Funding for other project needs identified in Item 22, Addendum A. Please include this letter in the public record.**

Sincerely,

Russell Rawlings  
Sac TRU

